## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 (ISO) W ------046869 251216Z/17

O R 251055Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1861

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL PRETORIA 4236

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA, UK

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: PROPOSED CALLAGHAN-VORSTER LETTER

- 1. BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT HAS GIVEN ME A COPY OF DAVID OWEN'S TELEGRAM NUMBER 842 TO UKMIS NEW YORK CONTAINING TEXT OF DRAFT REPLY TO VORSTER WHICH LONDON SUGGESTS COULD BE SENT BY PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN ALONE, ON BEHALF OF HIS FOUR COLLEAGUES, OR AS FIVE SEPARATE LETTERS FROM HEADS OF GOVERNMENT. INFO COPIES WENT TO ADDRESSEE POSTS AND I ASSUME LETTER HAS BEEN SHARED WITH USUN AND DEPARTMENT.
- 2. SCOTT HAS ALREADY SENT COMMENTS TO UKMIS, INCLUDING SUGGESTION THAT FIFTH SENTENCE OF FIFTH PARAGRAPH BE AMENDED TO READ: "YOU DID NOT SUGGEST THEN THAT OUR USE OF THESE WORDS CONFIDENTIAL

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OUTSIDE THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL WOULD PROVIDE YOU WITH ANY INSUPERABLE OBSTACLE." THIS WOULD FOLLOW SENTENCE READING, "YOU HAVE INDEED QUOTED THE FORM OF WORDS DISCUSSED AT THE TIME."

3. I WOULD AGREE WITH SCOTT'S SUGGESTED CHANGE BUT HAVE SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT TEXT COULD BE FURTHER IMPROVED BY INSERTION OF WORK "TENTATIVE" BEFORE PHRASE "FORM OF WORDS"

IN LAST SENTENCE ABOVE AND SUBSTITUTE PHRASE "SUCH WORDS" IN PLACE OF "THESE WORDS" IN AMENDED SENTENCE HE PROPOSED.

- 4. THE REST OF THE LETTER STRIKES ME AS A HELPFULLY FIRM REAFFIRMATION OF THE WESTERN POSITION.
- 5. ON BALANCE I THINK THE LETTER WOULD BE RECEIVED BETTER IF IT CAME FROM CALLAGHAN ALONE, OR FROM HIM ON BEHALF OF THE FIVE RATHER THAN FROM EACH OF THE FIVE, AS THERE IS SOME DANGER THAT A LETTER RECEIVED IN QUINTUPLICATE WILL BE REGARDED AS SIMPLY ANOTHER PRODUCT OF THE CONTACT GROUP BUREAUCRACY. AT THE SAME TIME, I THINK THE CONTACT GROUP SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO FIND SOME WAY FOR THE OTHER FOUR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, BY DISTINCTIVE CALLS OR BRIEF LETTERS OF THEIR OWN, TO CONFIRM THE COMMON CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN. THESE WOULD NOT HAVE TO GO INTO THE SAME DETAIL, BUT WOULD SIMPLY SERVE TO SHOW THE MUTUALITY OF CONCERN SHARED AMONG THE FIVE.

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TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, UK, UNSC, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES), (CALLAGHAN, JAMES)

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